

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic message management system comprising:

an information selection device that ~~identifies an electronic message~~ selects one or more candidate messages from a plurality of electronic messages based on one or more sender-independent message-based rules; and

an electronic message management device that ~~at least one of selects~~ determines for each of the candidate messages which of one or more digests is appropriate and integrates ~~the electronic message~~ each of the candidate messages into ~~[[a]] the digest~~ determined to be appropriate or samples the electronic message selects one or more of the candidate messages which meet one or more supplemental selection criteria.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a digest management device that delivers the digest to a predetermined destination upon satisfaction of at least one of the one or more sender-independent message-based rules.
3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising an information sampling device that delivers the ~~sampled electronic message~~ selected candidate messages to a predetermined destination based on one or more of the sender-independent message-based rules.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a rule management device that manages the one or more sender-independent message-based rules.
5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the one or more sender-independent message-based rules include a Boolean comparison, a statistical-based selection criteria, a fuzzy logic based selection criteria, a keyword based selection criteria, a date, a subject, a recipient or a sender-based selection criteria.
6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic message is at least one of an e-mail, an electronic message from a mailing list and bulletin board posting.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for managing electronic ~~message~~ messages comprising:

~~identifying an electronic message~~ selecting one or more candidate messages from a plurality of electronic messages based on one or more sender-independent message-based rules; and

~~at least one of selecting~~ determining for each of the candidate messages which of one or more digests is appropriate and integrating ~~the electronic message~~ each of the candidate messages into ~~[[a]] the digest determined to be appropriate~~ or ~~sampling the electronic message~~ selecting one or more of the candidate messages which meet one or more supplemental selection criteria.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising delivering the digest to a predetermined destination upon satisfaction of at least one of the one or more sender-independent message-based rules.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining and updating the digest based on one or more of the sender-independent message-based rules.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising delivering ~~sampled electronic message~~ selected candidate messages to a predetermined destination based on one or more of the sender-independent message-based rules.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the one or more sender-independent message-based rules include a Boolean comparison, a statistical-based selection criteria, a fuzzy logic based selection criteria, a keyword based selection criteria, a date, a subject, a recipient or a sender-based selection criteria.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the electronic message is at least one of an e-mail, an electronic message from a mailing list and bulletin board posting.

13. (Currently Amended) An information storage media comprising information that manages electronic messages comprising:

~~information that identifies an electronic message~~ selects one or more candidate messages from a plurality of electronic messages based on one or more sender-independent message-based rules; and

information that ~~at least one of selects~~ determines for each of the candidate messages which of one or more digests is appropriate and integrates ~~the electronic message~~ each of the candidate messages into [[a]] the digest determined to be appropriate or samples the electronic message selects one or more of the candidate messages which meet one or more supplemental selection criteria.

14. (Original) The information storage media of claim 13, further comprising information that deliver the digest to a predetermined destination upon satisfaction of at least one of the one or more sender-independent message-based rules.

15. (Original) The information storage media of claim 13, further comprising information that determines and updates the digest based on one or more of the sender-independent message-based rules.

16. (Currently Amended) The information storage media of claim 13, further comprising information that delivers the ~~sampled electronic message~~ selected candidate messages to a predetermined destination based on one or more of the sender-independent message-based rules.

17. (Original) The information storage media of claim 13, wherein the one or more sender-independent message-based rules include a Boolean comparison, a statistical-based selection criteria, a fuzzy logic based selection criteria, a keyword based selection criteria, a date, a subject, a recipient or a sender-based selection criteria.

18. (Original) The information storage media of claim 13, wherein the electronic message is at least one of an e-mail, an electronic message from a mailing list and bulletin board posting.

19. (Currently Amended) An electronic message management system comprising:

a data selection system that identifies ~~at least one electronic message~~ one or more candidate messages from a plurality of electronic messages based on a ~~sender based~~ sender-independent message-based rule; and

an electronic message management system functionally associated with the data selection system, the electronic message management system adapted to ~~communicate the at least one electronic message into a file~~ determines for each of the

identified candidate messages which of one or more digests is appropriate and integrate each of the candidate messages into the digest determined to be appropriate.

20. (Currently Amended) The electronic message management system of claim 19 wherein the data selection system samples ~~the plurality of electronic messages~~ one or more of the identified candidate messages which meet one or more supplemental selection criteria.